



Communities of Opportunity Update

- Communities of Opportunity is an initiative launched in March 2014 in partnership with The Seattle Foundation. It is an early strategy of the King County Health and Human Services Transformation's Plan.
- Designed with the ambitious goal of creating greater health, social, economic, and racial equity in King County so that all people thrive and prosper.
- Used data to identify census tracts with the greatest inequities in health, housing and economic opportunity measures. The maps confirm that where you live in the County, how much you make, and factors such as race and ethnicity are significant predictors of your chances of living well and thriving, even though King County average measures are among the highest in the country. Examples of inequities include:
 1. The average life expectancy can be 10 years shorter in communities that are just a few miles apart.
 2. The average household income in one ZIP code can be \$100,000 less than one nearby.
 3. Poverty rates can range from 6% to 54% by neighborhood and smoking rates vary from 5% to 20%.
- Designed to maximize positive impact by co-designing strategies with community leaders and by catalyzing public and private resources to underinvested neighborhoods.
- Funders and three cities/neighborhoods are analyzing current needs, assets and funding flows across health, housing and economic development systems and using Collective Impact principles to implement mutually reinforcing strategies that leverage multiple funding streams to achieve specific outcomes in the most impacted communities.
- COO is making both place-based investments in specific communities and policy and system changes that will work together to reduce policies and systems that perpetuate inequities.
- Policy and systems grants awarded to date:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. African Americans Reach & Teach Health Ministry 2. Futurewise and partners 3. Global to Local 4. Got Green 5. The Mockingbird Society 6. OneAmerica and partners 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Open Doors for Multicultural Families 8. Public Defender Association 9. Puget Sound Sage and partners 10. Seattle Indian Health Board 11. Skyway Solutions 12. White Center Community Development Association
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- In February 2015, place-based investments were announced in Rainier Valley in Southeast Seattle (HomeSight), in SeaTac and Tukwila (Global to Local), and in the White Center/North Highline unincorporated area through the White Center Community Development Association. From March to June, co-design meetings will address strategies, shared outcomes measurement systems with the sites.
- A Learning Community workshop will take place in the fall of 2015 on community engagement.
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Data, Demographics and Assets

Population Measures	Lowest ranked	Highest ranked
Life expectancy	74 years	87 years

Health, broadly defined:

Adverse childhood experiences	20%	9%
Frequent mental distress	14%	4%
Smoking	20%	5%
Obesity	33%	14%
Diabetes	13%	5%

Preventable hospitalizations	1.0%	0.4%
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Housing:

Poor housing condition	8%	0%
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Economic opportunity:

Income below 200% poverty	54%	6%
Unemployment	13%	3%

Community Assets

Rainier Valley, population 41,350: Active business association, a community with deep cultural roots and a mosaic of immigrant communities, 59 languages, ethnic community centers, residents aim to prosper in place, youth initiatives.

White Center, population 17,760: Engaged resident leaders, institutional partnerships in place, ethnically & culturally diverse community with a well-supported community development association, vibrant multi-ethnic business district, two Hope VI communities, three parks, affordable housing.

SeaTac & Tukwila, population 46,321: Diverse community, 70 languages, Food Innovation Network in place to create entrepreneurial and employment opportunities, residents interested in catering, food processing, baking, food trucks and urban farming.

Auburn and Skyway: Planning grants awarded.

